

REMARKS

Claims 10-68 are pending in this case. As amended, claims 11, 18, 20, 23, 27, 29, 32, 35, 36, 37 and 53 are the pending independent claims.

Allowed Claims

Claims 11-13, 18, 20-22, 27, 29-31 and 35-68 stand allowed.

Objections to Claims

The Examiner has objected to the form of each of claims 23 and 32 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but has stated that each of these claims would be allowable if written in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 23 and 32 to expressly state all of the limitations of the relevant base claims, which limitations were previously included by virtue of the dependence from those base claims. Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that amended claims 23 and 32 are now in allowable form. These amendments are not intended to and do not narrow the scope of the amended claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 10, 15-17, 19, 24-26, 28, 33-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the cited art. Applicant has canceled these claims without prejudice.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lahr in view of Fukunaga. Applicant has canceled this claim without prejudice.

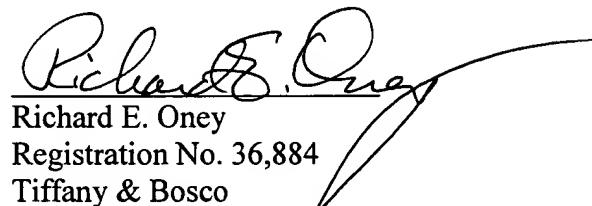
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the claims 11-13, 18, 20-23, 27, 29-32 and 35-68 are in allowable form. Applicant therefore requests reconsideration and allowance of these claims. Applicant believes that there are no additional fees due. In the event Applicant is incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 503289.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (602) 255-6094 if this would in any way facilitate prosecution of the application.

Dated: October 20, 2004

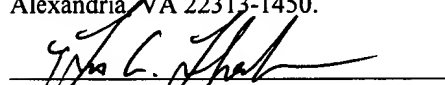
Respectfully submitted,


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Express Mail Label No. EU 778930881 US

Date of Deposit 10/20/04

I hereby certify that this paper and all documents and any fee referred to herein are being deposited on the date indicated above with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, postage prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Louis A. Lofredo, Legal Assistant

10/20/04
Date of Signature